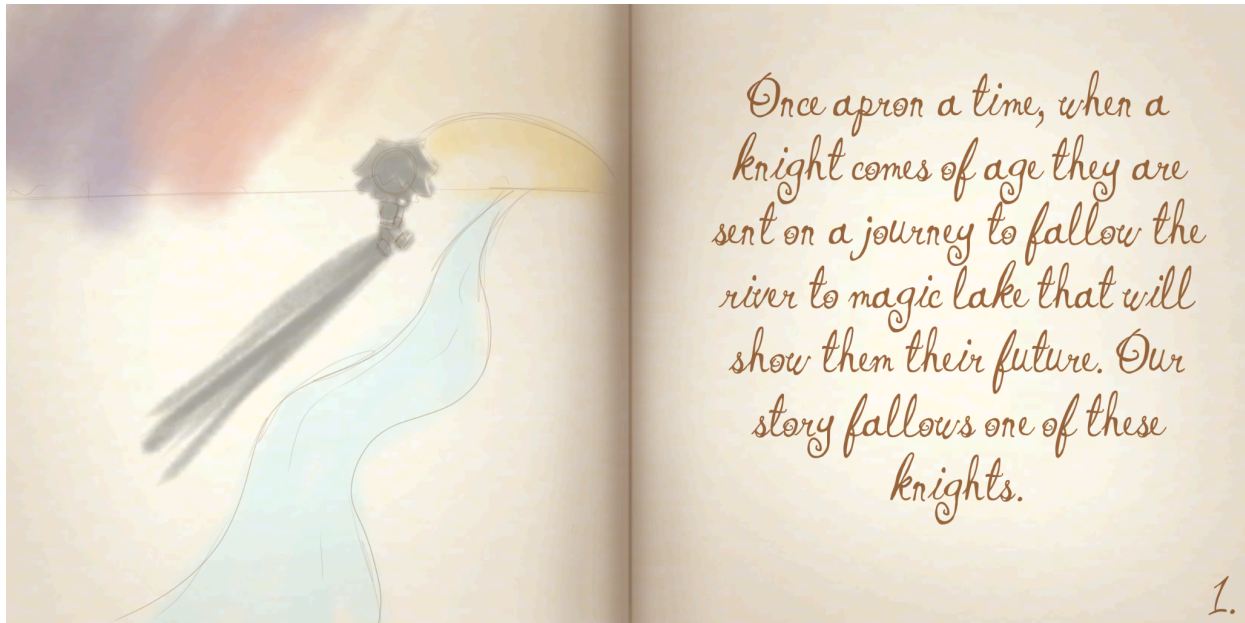


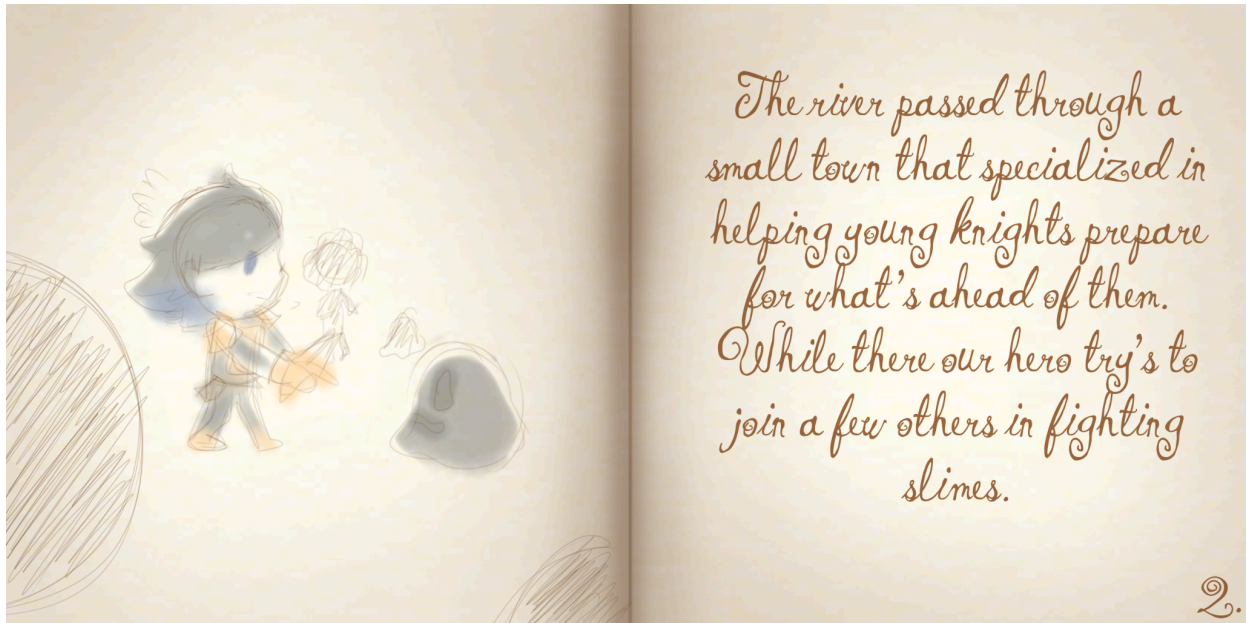
Jennifer Knight Scholarship essay

Hello, I am Rain Bellamy, yes this is my essay, yes it also contains a fairy tale, for when asked to explain my journey it felt like the only appropriate medium to do so in. I am aware that I have taken the usual essay format out back and shot it, however I feel the message is the most important part of an essay and that a format should be chosen that best complements it. Under each page includes a typed version of the text of the story which I included to help mitigate any problems that may arise from the font I chose. This story shows a fairy tale version of a young adult trying to traverse school with an invisible disability, only realizing what was wrong with them after struggling their whole life. No, it is not the best work of literature out there but it is my truth. Under the story I will go into more depth on the real world events this story conveys. Thank you and please enjoy.

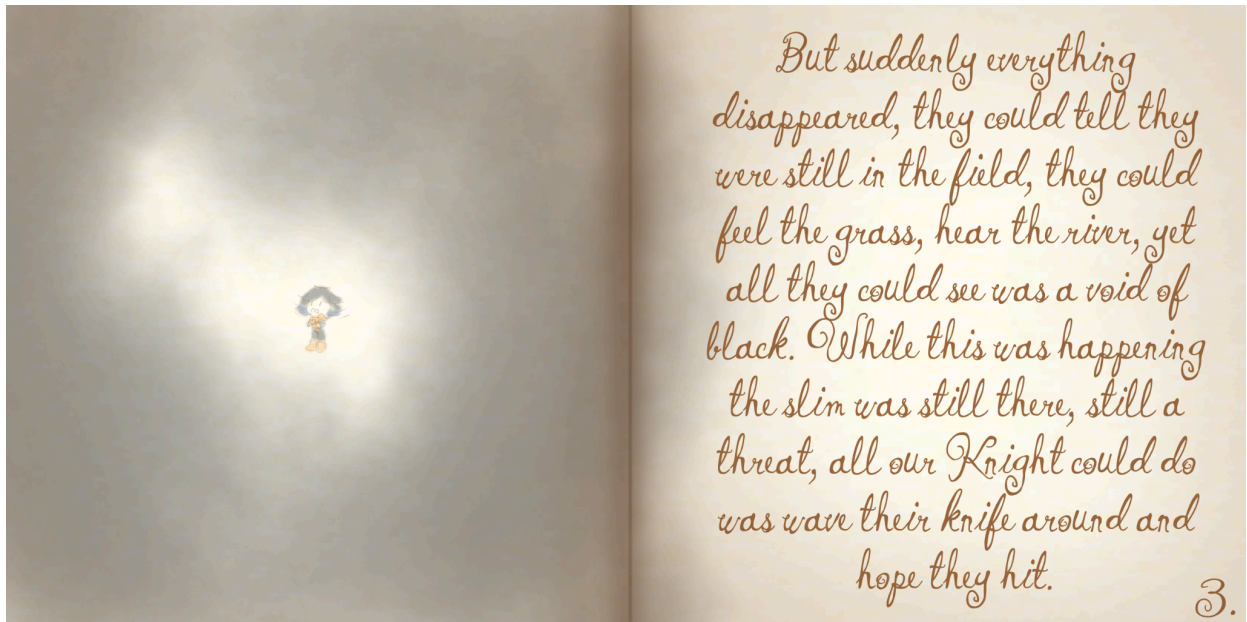


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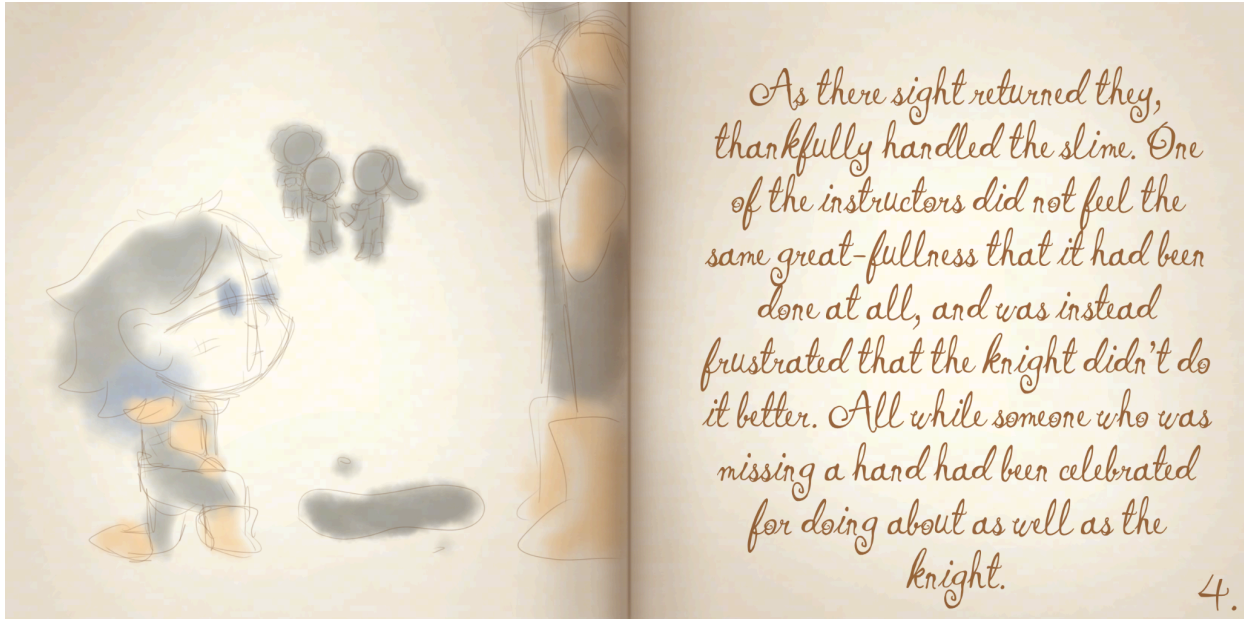
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The river passed through a small town that specialized in helping young knights prepare for what's ahead of them. While there our hero tries to join a few others in fighting slimes.



But suddenly everything disappeared, they could tell they were still in the field, they could feel the grass, hear the river, yet all they could see was a void of black. While this was happening the slim was still there, still a threat, all our knight could do was wave their knife around and hope they hit.



As their sight returned they, thankfully handled the slime. One of the instructors did not feel the same great-fulness that it had been done at all, and was instead frustrated that the knight didn't do it better. All while someone who was missing a hand had been celebrated for doing about as well as the knight.

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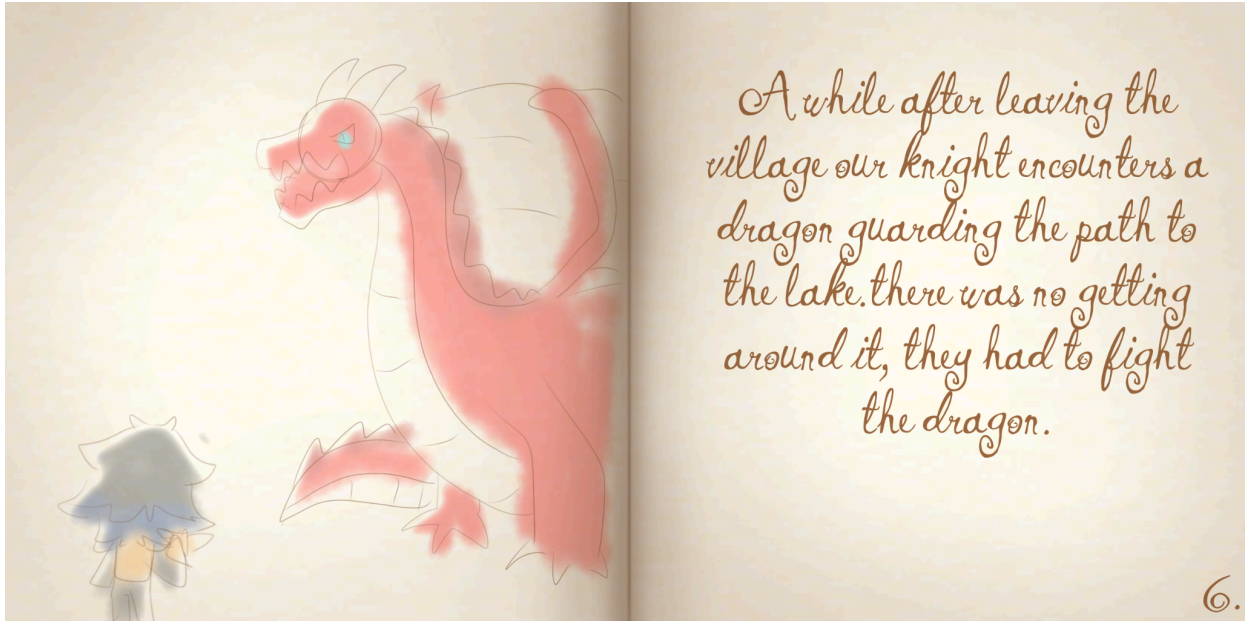
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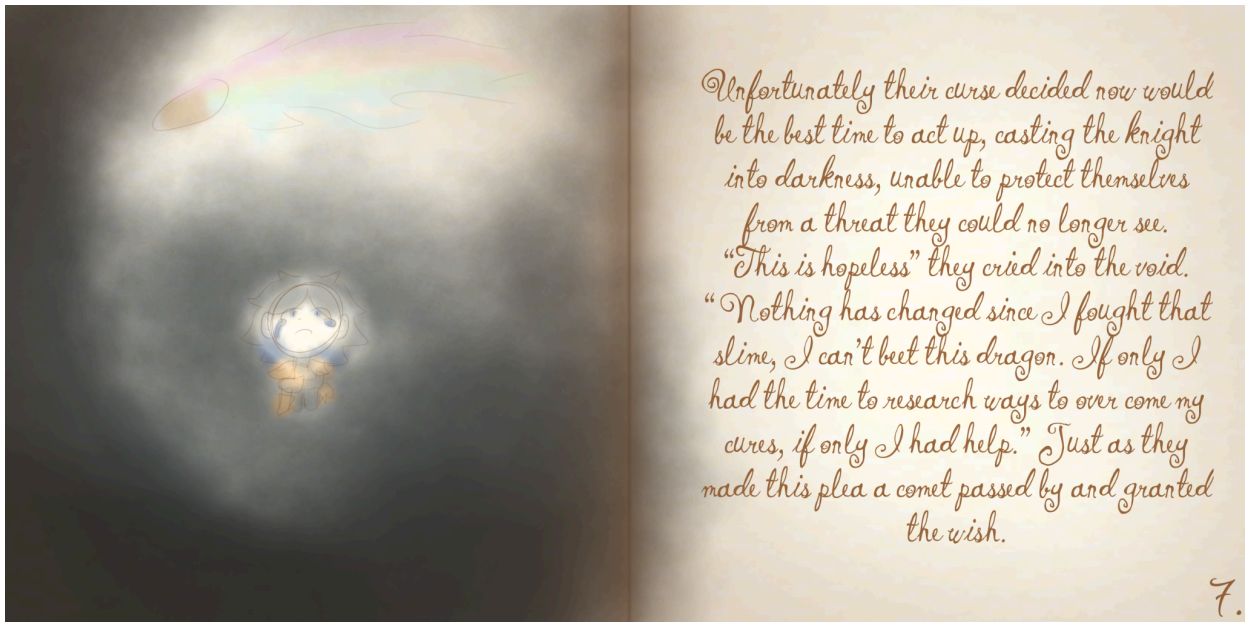
During the knights time at the village they discovered that they were born with a curse. It was the reason the world had seemed to disappear. However, they didn't have enough time to find a cure before they had to leave and continue their journey.

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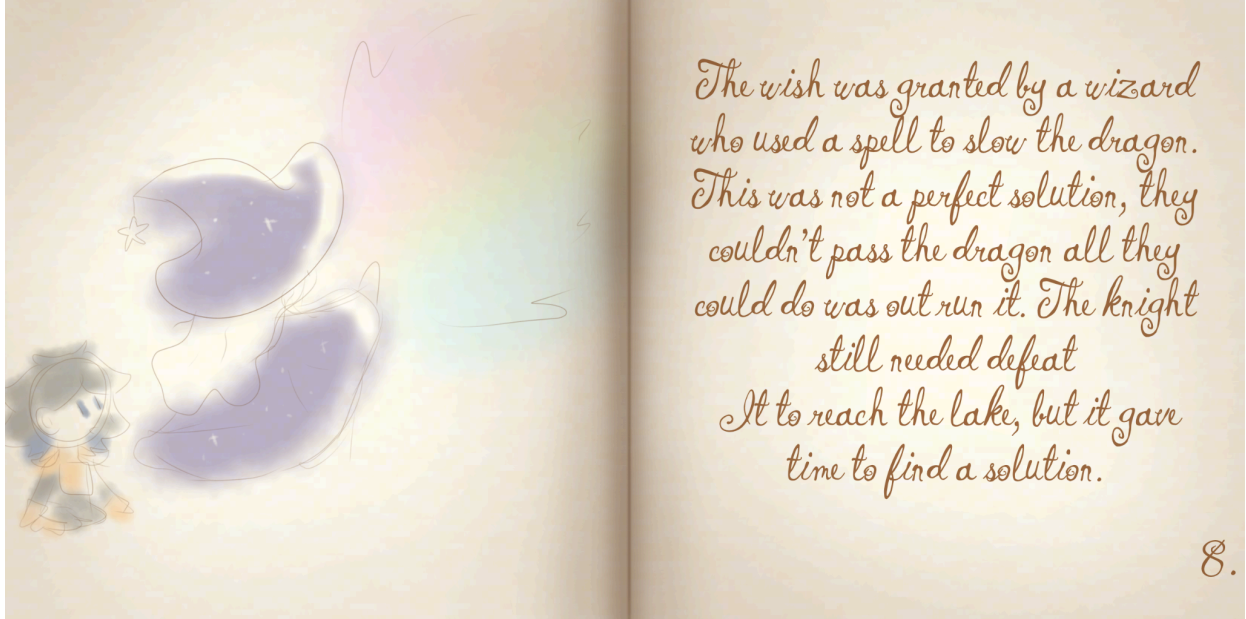
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A while after leaving the village our knight encounters a dragon guarding the path to the lake. There was no getting around it, they had to fight the dragon.



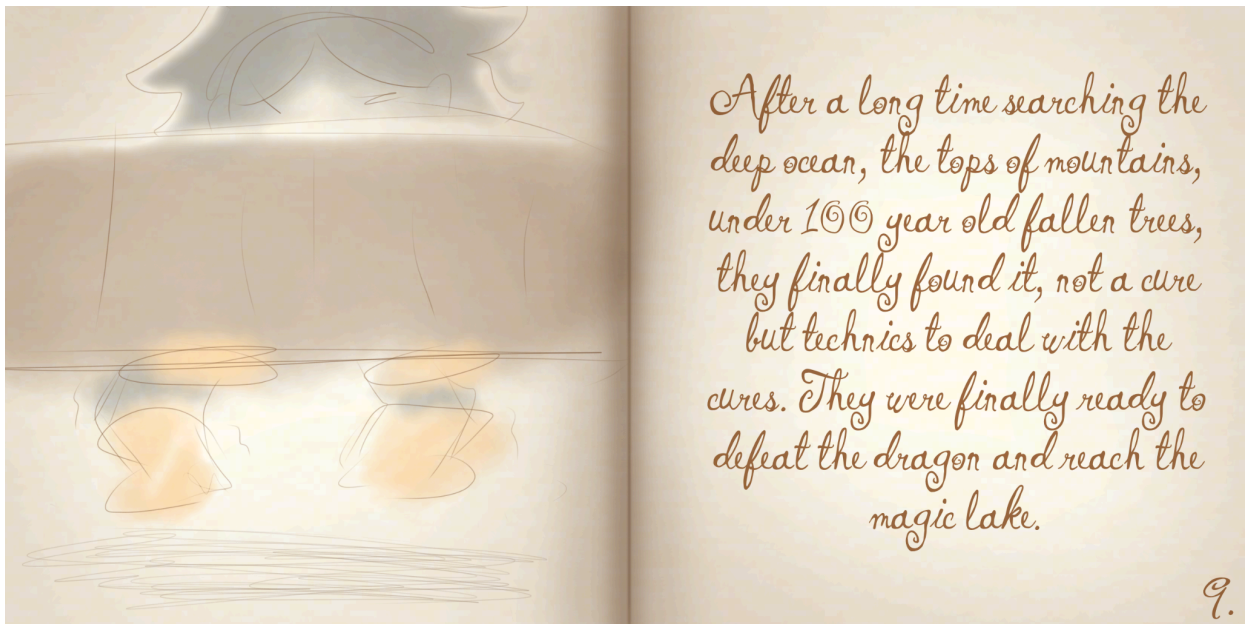
Unfortunately their curse decided now would be the best time to act up, casting the knight into darkness, unable to protect themselves from a threat they could no longer see. "This is hopeless" they cried into the void. "Nothing has changed since I fought that slime, I can't beat this dragon. If only I had the time to research ways to overcome my curse, if only I had help." Just as they made this plea a comet passed by and granted the wish.



The wish was granted by a wizard who used a spell to slow the dragon. This was not a perfect solution, they couldn't pass the dragon all they could do was out run it. The knight still needed defeat It to reach the lake, but it gave time to find a solution.

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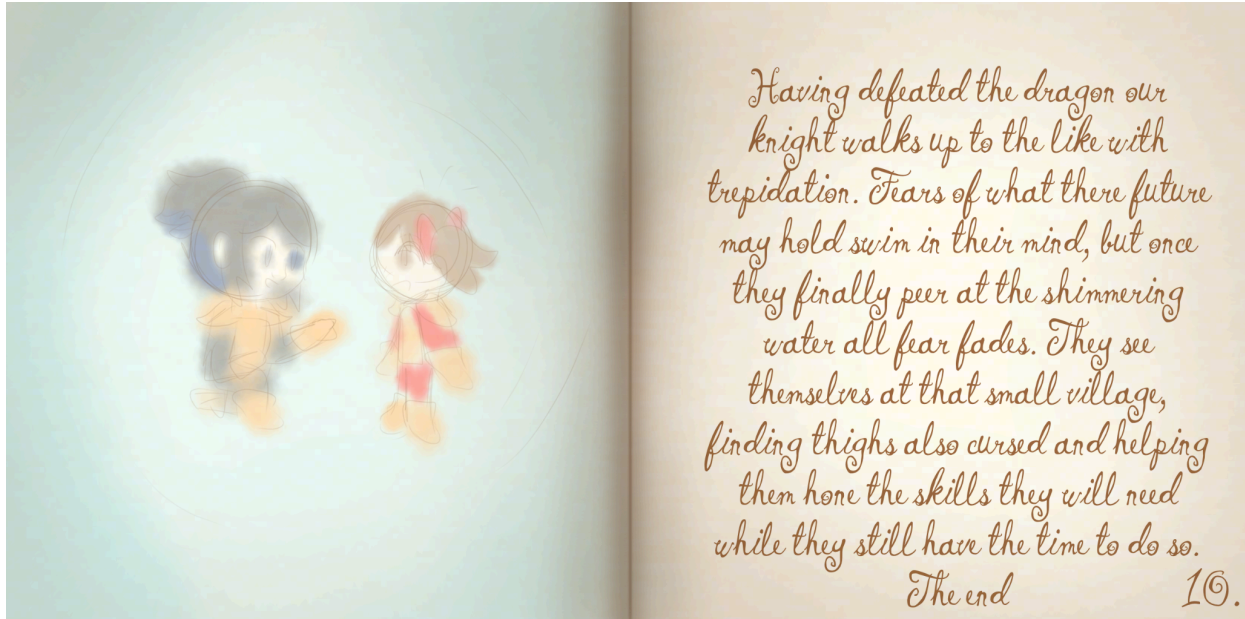
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Having defeated the dragon our knight walks up to the lake with trepidation. Fears of what their future may hold swim in their mind, but once they finally peer at the shimmering water all fear fades. They see themselves at that small village, finding thoughts also cursed and helping them hone the skills they will need while they still have the time to do so.

The end

As mentioned in the opening of this essay, the story you have just read is a representation of my real struggles getting through school. Whenever I had to read something with a lot of words on a page my eyes would just glaze over, I would be able to read the words on their own but whenever I took a minute to think about what I had just read I'd realized I wasn't able to recall anything. When I had homework I would just stare at the paper unable to even pick up the pencil, I didn't know what was wrong with me. I thought I was being lazy however I was told that crying over my work, desperate to do anything, but not being able to, was not laziness but ADHD.

Now I'm in college, I've been struggling the whole way, taking longer to get here than most and will most certainly graduate later than most as well. I will find a way to get through but the support would help me be able to put less time to work and devote more to going to therapy, ADHD counselors, and rummaging through every library I can find to develop methods to help me actually get through college. Once finished I want to advocate for adhd screenings in elementary schools like they do eye and hearing tests. They may not be able to diagnose someone but it will help direct kids who need it to receive a diagnosis, where they can then begin learning ways to function while still young. Along with that I hope to use the skills I find to become a therapist myself and support others the ways I currently need.

Thank you for the opportunity to regale you with the somewhat harrowing tales of my life though the medium of a fairy tale and I hope you find my story inspiring. Hopefully we all will all be able to live happily ever after.

The end (for real this time)